Threads of Time™

拾神語

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11

Threads of Time Vol. 11
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Threads of Time™

撥神傳

Volume 11

By
Mi Young Noh

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Threads of Time Vol. 1

High school kendo champion Moon Bin Kim suffers fourteen recurring nightmares in which he lives as Sa Kyung Kim, the son of a prominent warrior family in 13th Century Korea (Koryo). After a freak accident, Moon Bin falls into a coma; but his medieval-clay personality resurfaces in the distant past as Sa Kyung revives miraculously after years of unconsciousness. As if being displaced in medieval Koryo wasn't enough, Moon Bin finds the country at the brink of war. Sali Tayi, the most brutal and feared general of the Mongol army, leads the invasion. Opposing him is Moon Bin's 13th Century father, the [illegible] vassal lord Kim Kyung-Sohn.

Threads of Time Vol. 2

General Sohn learns that Genghis Khan's granddaughter, Atan Hadas, is gathering intelligence in Koryo and orders her arrest. Meanwhile, Sali Tayi, who is in princess and an enemy spy, the impetuous Moon Bin helps her escape capture. Returning to Sali Tayi, Atan Hadas learns that a full-scale invasion of Koryo has begun.

Threads of Time Vol. 3

In an all-out assault, the Mongol army cuts a bloody swath toward Chei Zhu Palace, the stronghold of Koryo's defense. General Sali Tayi demands Koryo's surrender, but despite facing overwhelming enemy forces, the Koryo palace weathers the Mongol siege. Kim Kyung-Sohn stands against Sali Tayi in personal combat, keeping the hope of a successful resistance alive.

Threads of Time Vol. 4

Infatuated by Koryo's resistance, Sali Tayi orders the rape and massacre of Kim Kyung-Sohn's household. Disturbed by the brutality of her fellow soldiers and seeking to repay Moon-Bin's kindness, Atan Hadas warns Moon Bin to save himself. Unable to adjust to his 13th Century family, Moon Bin returns home to find everything destroyed.

Threads of Time Vol. 5

Moon Bin dresses as a woman to avoid the murderous clutches of the Mongols. Meanwhile, the Koryo ruler surrenders to the Mongol hordes, much to the shock of General Kim Kyung-Sohn, who fought fiercely for his country only to be betrayed by its leaders.

Threads of Time Vol. 6

With the death of General Kim Kyung-Sohn, the last credible Koryo resistance to the Mongol army falls. Moon Bin is captured and placed in the Slave Corps: Koryo citizens who will be trained as Mongol soldiers to fight their own on the battlefield.

Threads of Time Vol.7

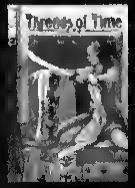
Haunted by the vision of his dead warrior father, Moon Bin awakens in the slave camp with a compulsion to avenge his family's murder. He becomes a cold and fierce warrior and gains the notice of his Mongol commanders who push him up the ranks. Meanwhile, Sali Tayi decides he wishes to marry Atan Hadas.

Threads of Time Vol.8

Sali Tayi reminisces about his childhood with Atan Hadas, and how much he loves her now. Meanwhile, Moon Bin comes to believe that retrieving his sword will be the key to returning to his own century. Moon Bin learns that Sali Tayi now possesses the sword, and is betrothed to Atan Hadas.

Threads of Time Vol.9

Unwilling to fight against his countrymen, Moon Bin deserts the Mongol army camp, but is attacked by Sali Tayi. During the fight, Sali Tayi is shocked to discover that Moon Bin is Kim Kyung-Sohn's son. Though defeated by Sali Tayi, Atan Hadas helps Moon Bin escape. During his recovery, Moon-Bin resolves to follow his course to its end.



Threads of Time Vol. 10

Kim Moon-Bin leads the infiltration of a surprise attack against a small troop of Mongols and succeeds in driving them off, but only for a little while. Later on, Moon-Bin comes to the realization that he was Sali Tayi in a previous life, not Kim Moon-Bin, and that Sa-Lum dragged him down to this life to avenge her and her family's death. Moon-Bin is determined to end this whole matter, and he feels he has an advantage since he remembers his past life as Sali Tayi. The two men encounter each other in the temple where Sali Tayi is staying that night.

contents

Threads of Time 11

44

Duel 7

45

The End 63

46

A New Life 107

Chapter 44
Duel

HM.
AH...
HA!
HA HA HA HA!
I WOULD HAVE SCOURED THE EARTH FOR YOU
BUT INSTEAD, YOU'VE COME TO ME

TONIGHT...
...I WILL OVERCOME MY FINAL OBSTACLE IN MY PATH TO ATAN HADAS.
YOU!

HAVE AT ME.

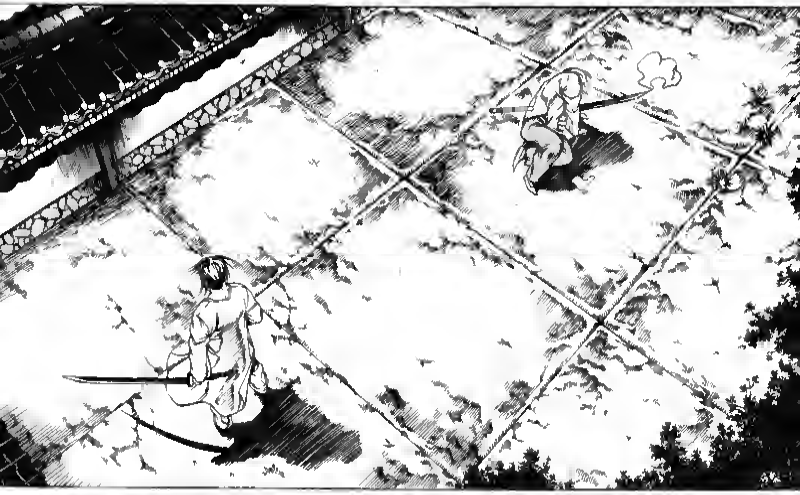
!
YOU'VE CHANGED.
YOU ACT LIKE A FERAL TIGER.
TO HAVE THE AUDACITY TO FACE ME!
HEH.

THIS WILL BE FUN.

ナイ
ンン

IT'S LIKE FIGHTING IN THE MIRROR!

WHO ARE YOU?
WHO AM I?
IF YOUR LIFE IS LIVED IN SUNLIGHT ...
...THEN I RESIDE IN SHADOWS.



WHY...?

KILL-CRAZY MANIAC!

...
ALL THAT KILLING? ALL THAT DEATH?
YOU EVER CONSIDER THE PAIN YOU CAUSED?
IF YOU EVER STOPPED TO THINK ABOUT IT...
...WOULD YOU STILL BE SUCH A BUTCHER?!
THOSE WERE GOOD PEOPLE YOU KILLED!

THEY WERE AS WARM AS YOU ARE COLD!
ASS-HOLE!
HOW CAN YOU LIVE THAT WAY?!

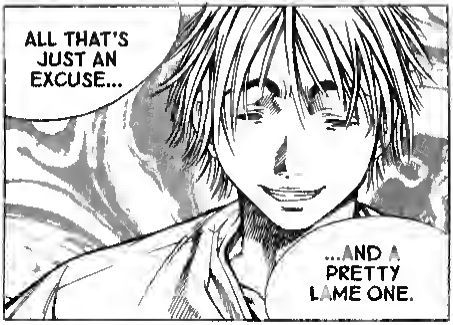
WHY DO I LIVE THIS WAY?
WHAT NONSENSE!
IF WAR IS A MORAL PRINCIPLE, THERE IS ONE PATH TO RIGHTEOUSNESS!
SURVIVAL IS THE FINAL TRUTH!

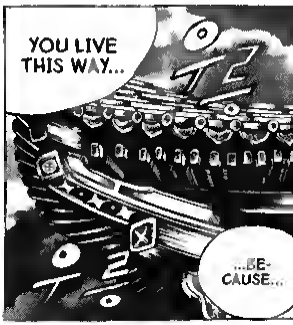
THAT IS WHY I LIVE AS I DO!
DO YOU UNDERSTAND NOW?

I KNEW IT.

DEEP DOWN INSIDE..
...YOU'RE WEAK

SO, YOU WERE ABANDONED BY YOUR PARENTS.
!
SO, YOU GREW UP ON THE BATTLEFIELD.


ALL THAT'S JUST AN EXCUSE...
...AND A PRETTY LAME ONE.


YOU LIVE THIS WAY...
...BE-CAUSE...

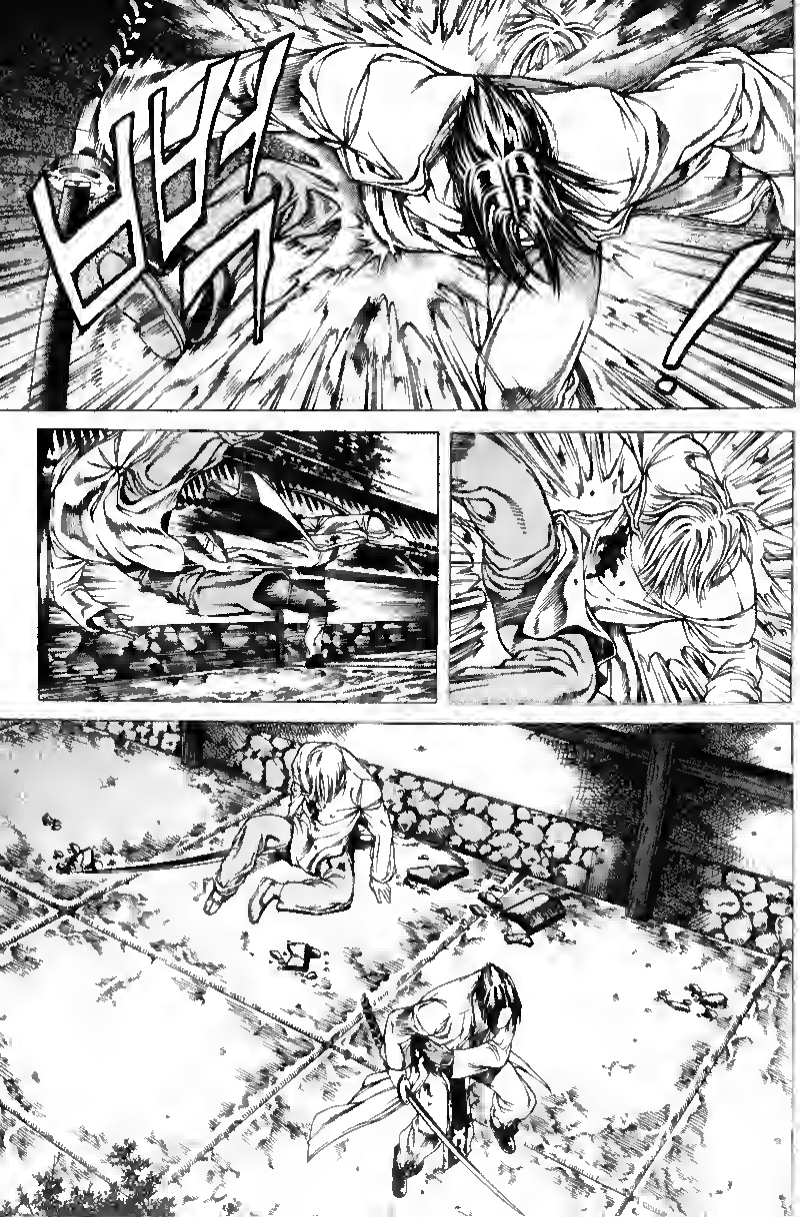
...IT'S JUST EASIER.

YOU'RE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

!
SILENCE.
YOU MUST KNOW WHAT I DESIRE MOST.

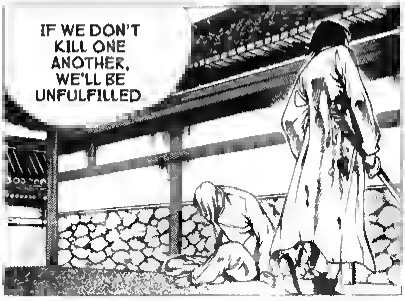
IT'S GOTTA BE ATAN HADAS.
YES...
BECAUSE OF YOU, SHE REFUSES ME.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT I WANT MOST, SALI TAYI?
A FAMILY!

YA KNOW WHO TOOK THAT FROM ME?! WHO STOLE IT?!
YOU!


탕!

IT'S FUNNY.
NEITHER OF US GETS WHAT WE WANT.

ALL WE HAVE...
...IS EACH OTHER.


IF WE DON'T KILL ONE ANOTHER, WE'LL BE UNFULFILLED

FOREVER.

WHAT YOU SAY...
...RINGS TRUE.
MY SOUL'S FATE RESTS ON THIS OUTCOME.

YEAH
DO OR DIE, LOSER.
싸 야

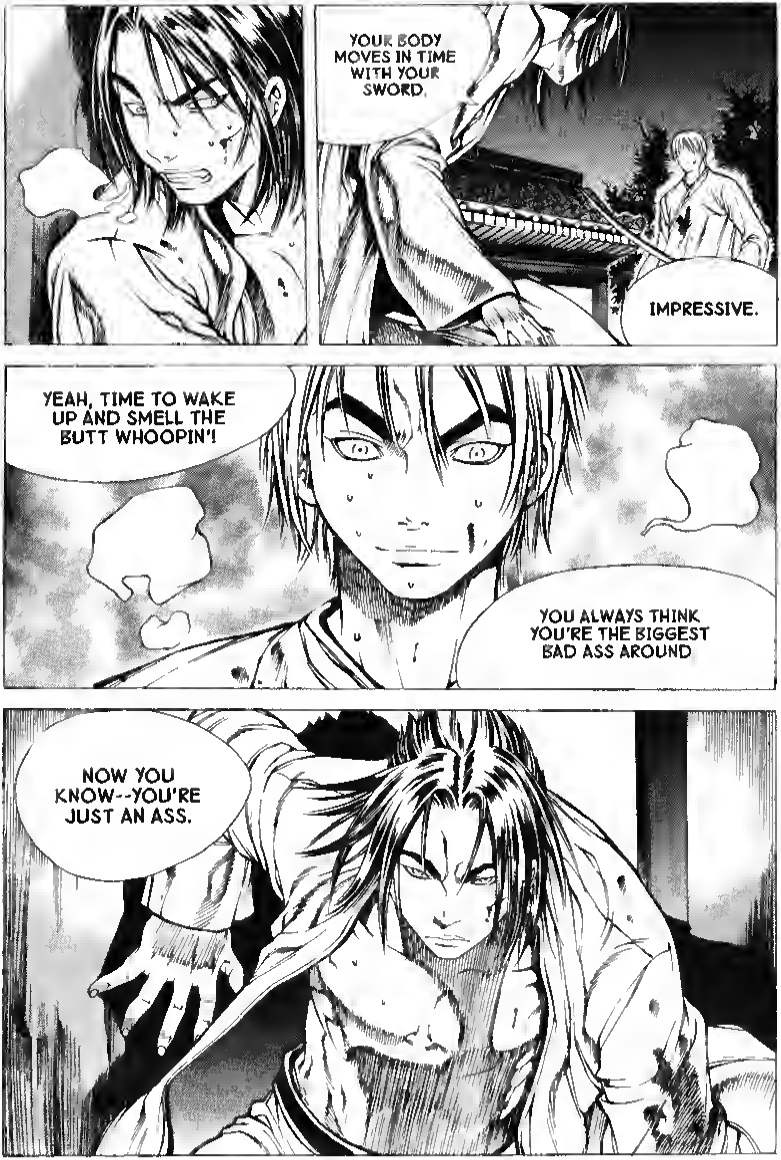
AHHH!

UGH!
NOW...
...THE ADVANTAGE IS MINE

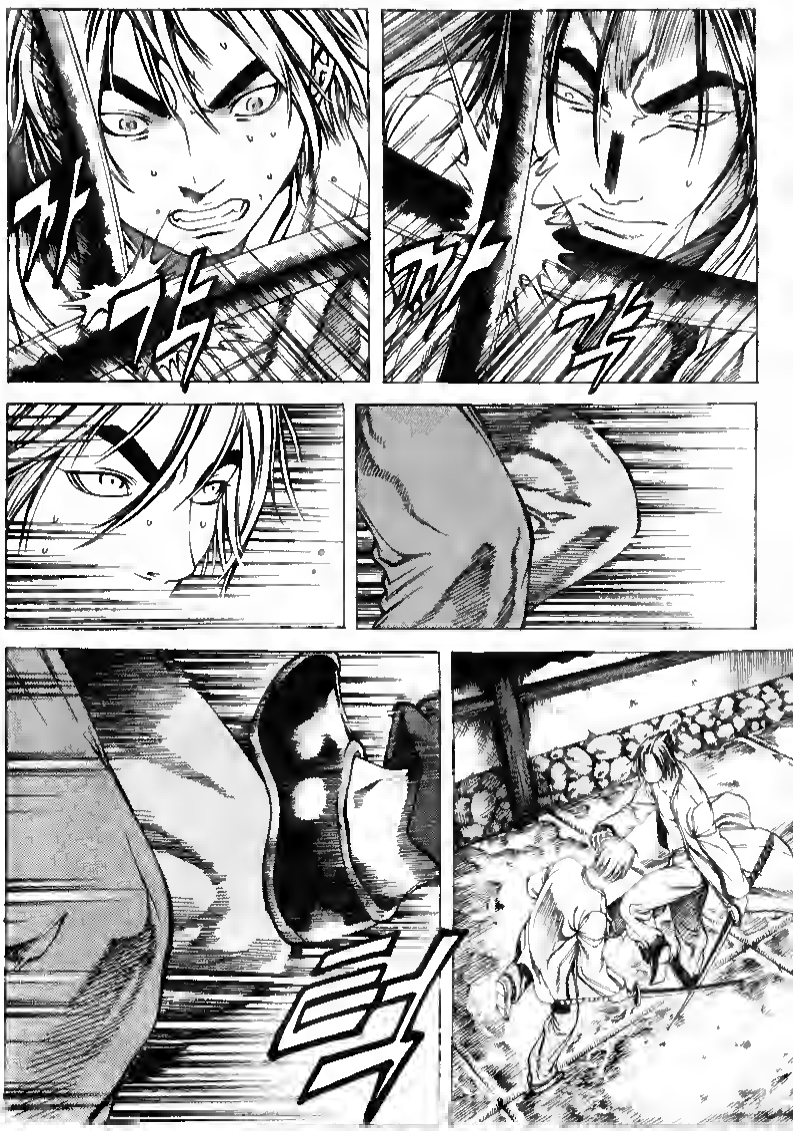
...!
퍽!!

HN!
AHHHH!

으아!
타!

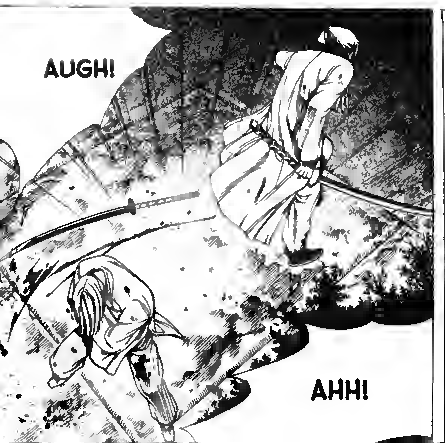

YOUR BODY MOVES IN TIME WITH YOUR SWORD.
IMPRESSIVE.
YEAH, TIME TO WAKE UP AND SMELL THE BUTT WHOOPIN'!
YOU ALWAYS THINK YOU'RE THE BIGGEST BAD ASS AROUND
NOW YOU KNOW--YOU'RE JUST AN ASS.

SILENCE!
YOU MUTTER NONSENSE...
...ONLY FIT FOR A FOOL!
ヴォン!



DAMMIT!
AH!

AUGHHHH!


AUGH!
AHH!

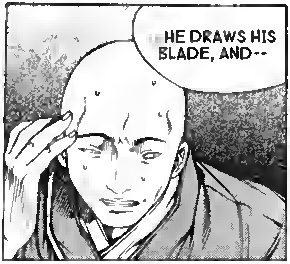
IS THIS YOUR "WHOOPING"?

AH, WHO NEEDS AN ARM...

...AS LONG AS I CAN TAKE YOUR LIFE?
SON OF KIM KYUNG-SOHN...
...POUR YOUR SOUL INTO YOUR SWORD.
COME.
EMBRACE YOUR FATE.

WHERE DID THE YOUNG MASTER GO?
WHERE?

BY DAY HE ACTS ILL IN THE HEAD.
COME NIGHT..


HE DRAWS HIS BLADE, AND--

SWORDS?

샤샥

エイトス
ニヤ

YOUNG MASTER!

챙

AHHHHH!

IT ENDS.

부들

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Fantasy/Action
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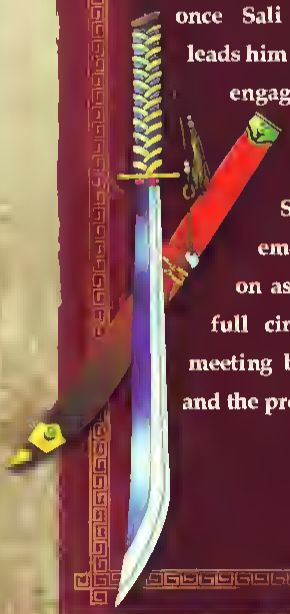
Threads of Time™

Upon being flooded with all of Sali Tayi's memories, Kim Moon Bin comes to the striking conclusion that he was once Sali Tayi. This revelation leads him to seek out Sali Tayi and engage in what will become their final confrontation! But will it be the young Sali, or the old Sali that emerges victorious? Read on as *Threads of Time* comes full circle with a spectacular meeting between the past and the present!



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Chapter 45
The End

크큭

YOU...
YOU AND ...
I...
YOUNG MASTER, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

HHH
...

I'M SORRY.

I'M...
I'M SORRY.

ATAN HADAS...

THE MEMORY OF
THAT DAY...

IN ALL THE DARKNESS,
YOU WERE MY
ONLY LIGHT.
BUT YOU DON'T
REMEMBER.

THAT WAS TYPICAL OF MY LIFE.
THAT MEMORY WAS...
...MINE ALONE...

AND NOW NOTHING.

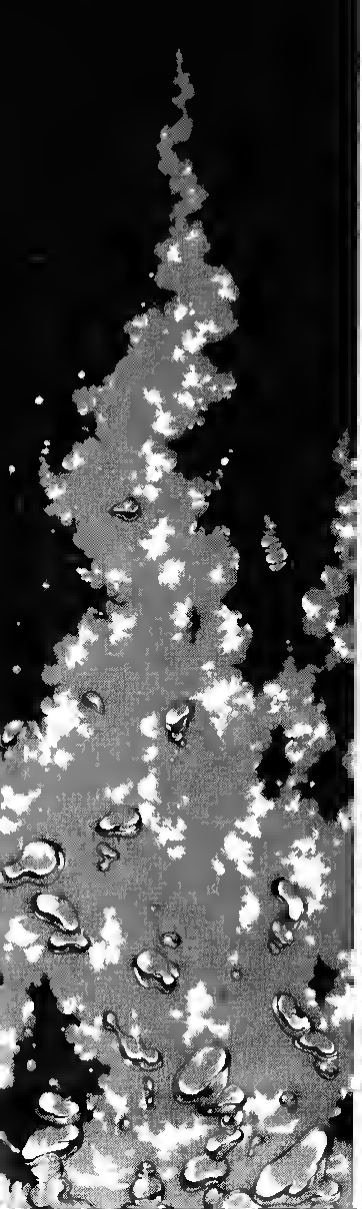
YOUNG MASTER! LEAVE!
THERE IS NO TIME!
!
WHO'S THERE?!
OH NO!

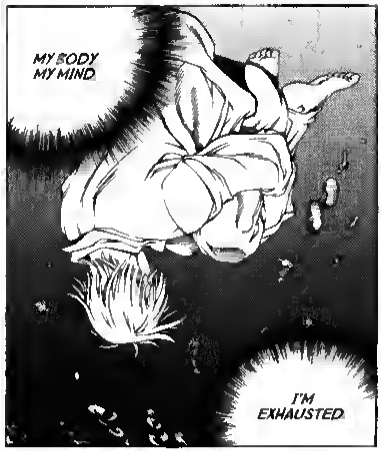
HELP! SOMEONE!
SALI TAY! IS DOWN!
YOUNG MASTER!

NOW IT REALLY IS THE END.
I HOPE WE BOTH FIND OURSELVES IN BETTER PLACES.
IT'S OVER.

YOU!!!
YOU DARE?!

-BEEP-
-BEEP-
-BEEEE-




MY BODY
MY MIND
I'M
EXHAUSTED.

I HAVE NO
MORE
ENERGY.

I JUST
WANNA
SLEEP.

HIT HIM AGAIN!
IT'S CHARGING!
CLEAR!
THREE, TWO, ONE...
STAY WITH US, MOON-BIN!
MORE JUICE!
YES, SIR!
KIM MOON-BIN!

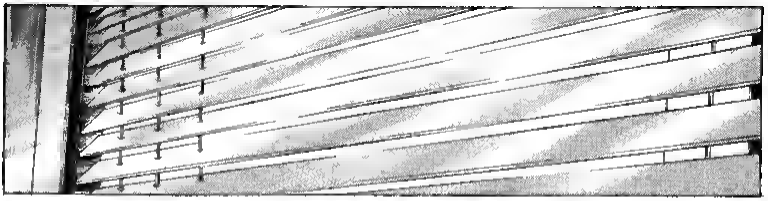
KIM MOON-BIN?
WHO'S THAT?
I...
OH... RIGHT...

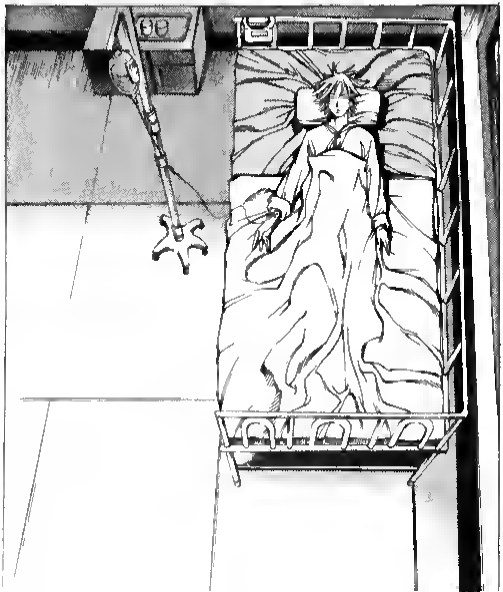
THAT WAS MY NAME.
BEFORE IT WAS KIM SA-KYUNG, OR MAYBE AFTER.
BUT I TOLD MYSELF NO MATTER WHO I AM, I'LL SURVIVE.
HHH
OTO

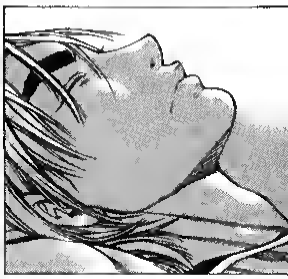
I'M NOT GOING OUT LIKE A CHUMP!
-BEEP-
-BEEP-
OH!
HIS HEART'S BEATING!
THAT'S STRANGE!
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE MONITOR!

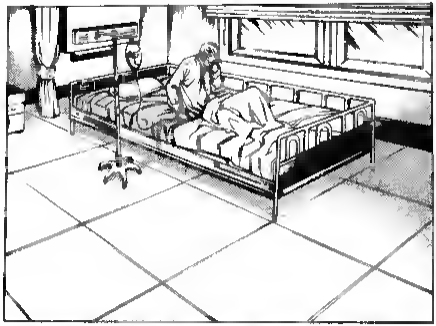
LOOK...
THERE'S BRAIN ACTIVITY
!
HOW...?
HE'S BEEN IN A COMA FOR TWO YEARS...
IT'S A MIRACLE.

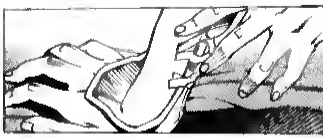
병원

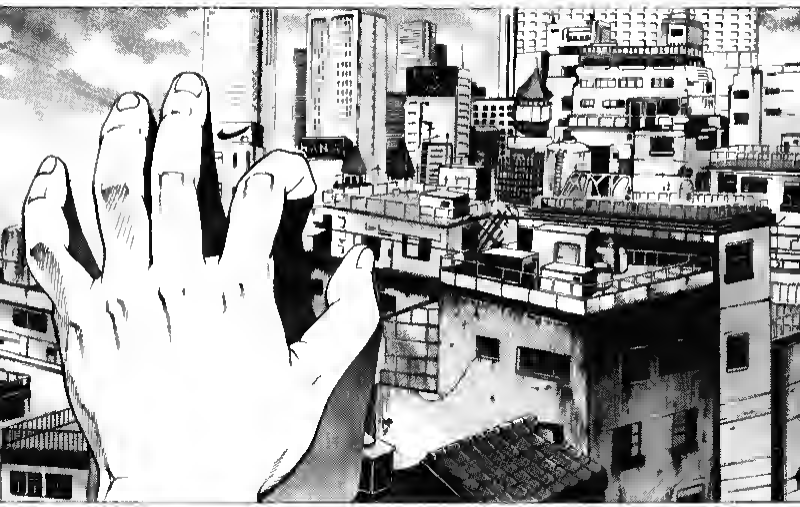


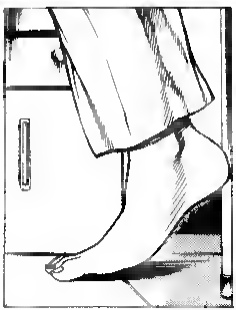


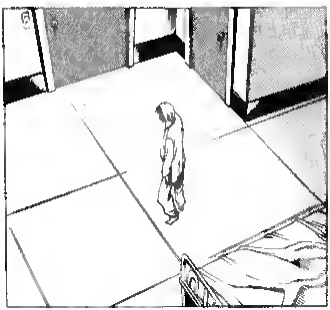






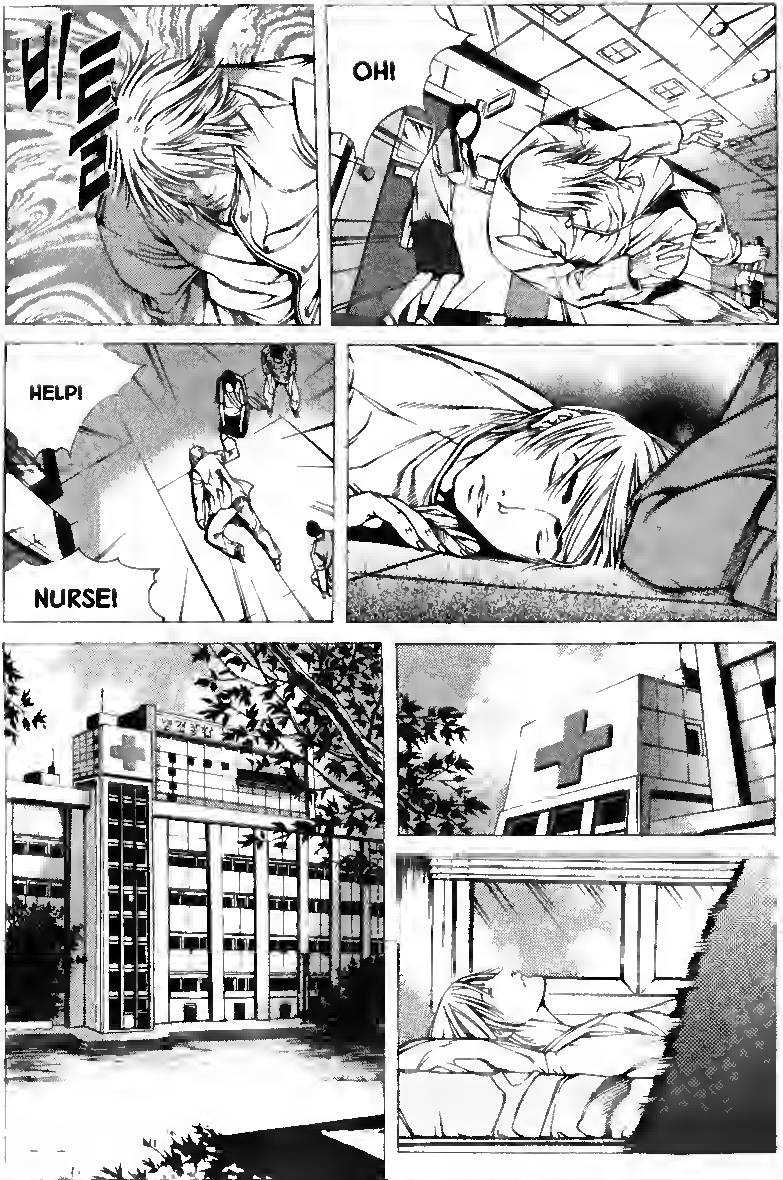






2 0 3
KIM MOON-SIN

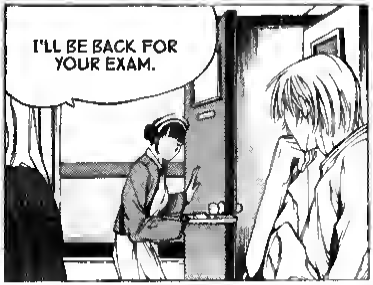
I'M BACK.

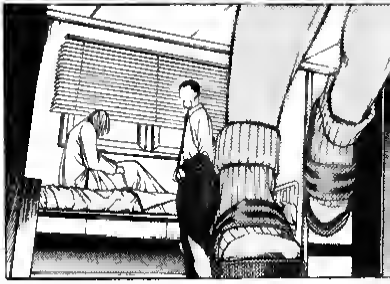

BEE
OH!
HELP!
NURSE!

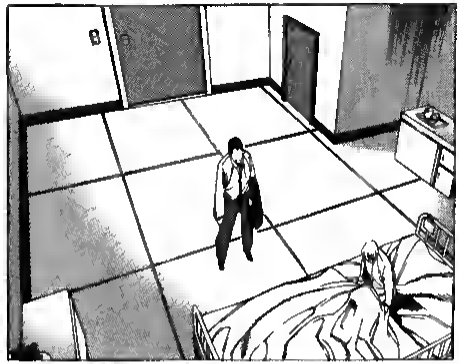
FATHER?
THEY SAID YOU WERE AWAKE.
YOU LOOK... OKAY
IT'S TIME FOR YOUR SHOT, MOON-BIN.
YOU MUST BE HAPPY AFTER TWO YEARS OF SLEEP.
THE HOSPITAL IS BUZZING WITH YOUR SUCCESS STORY.
TWO YEARS?
TWO YEARS AND FOUR MONTHS, ACTUALLY

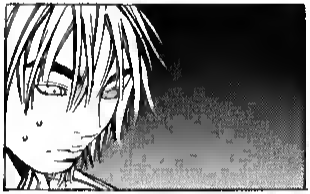
NO!
NO...
IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS...

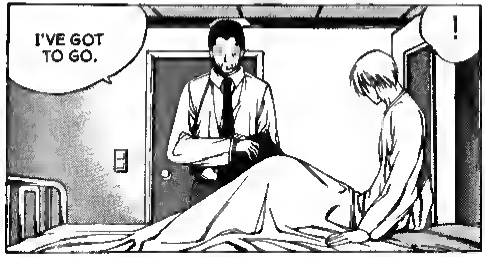
IT FEELS LIKE AN ETERNITY.

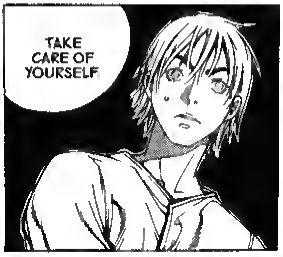

I'LL BE BACK FOR YOUR EXAM.

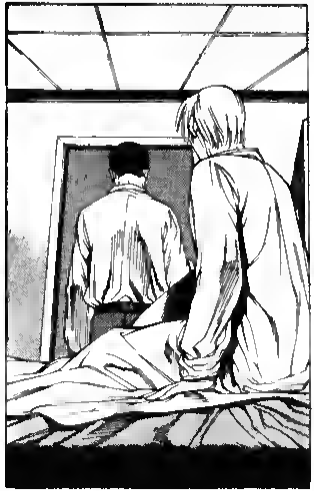


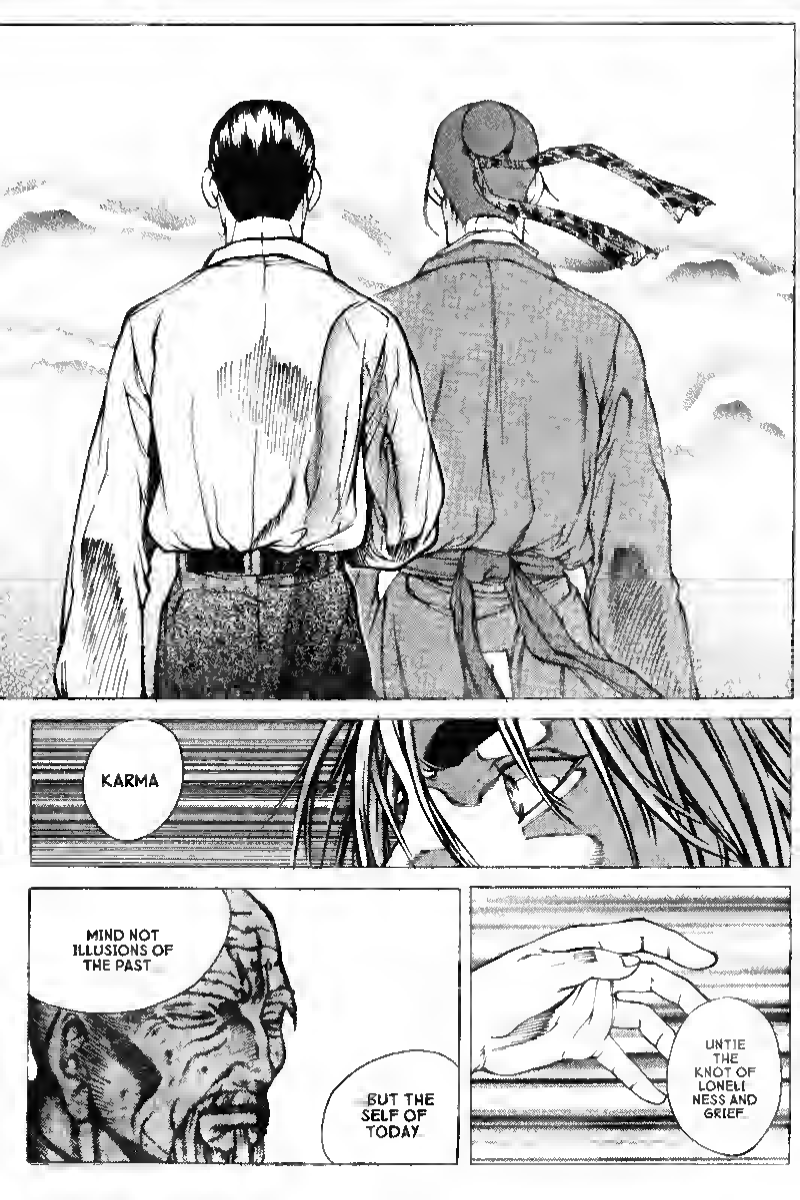





I'VE GOT TO GO.
!

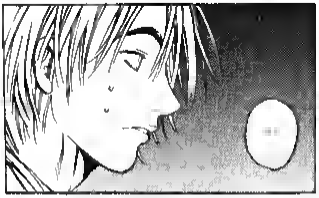

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF



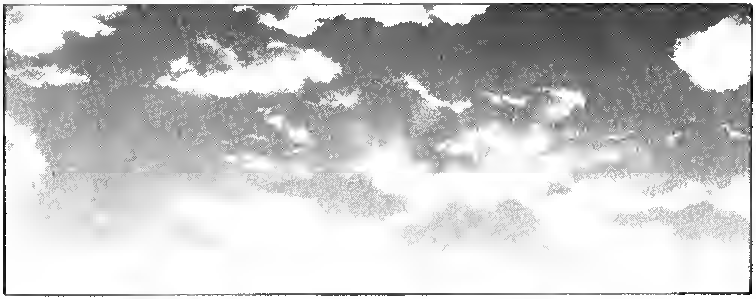

KARMA
MIND NOT ILLUSIONS OF THE PAST
BUT THE SELF OF TODAY
UNTIE THE KNOT OF LONELI NESS AND GRIEF

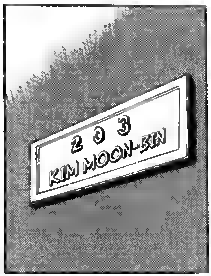
IN YOUR DREAMS YOU WERE REBORN ANEW.
성진

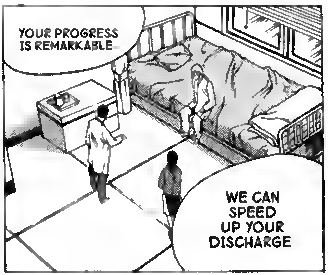
WHAT IS IT?



NEXT TIME YOU VISIT...
CAN YOU BRING MOTHER WITH YOU?
I'LL TRY, BUT...
...DON'T COUNT ON IT.
TELL HER...
...I WANT TO SEE HER.
LET HER KNOW.




203
KIM MOON-SIN

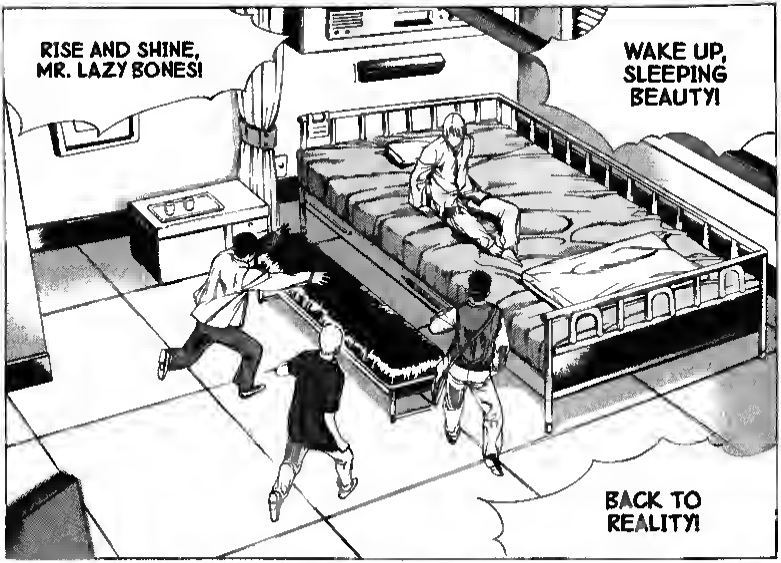

YOUR PROGRESS IS REMARKABLE
WE CAN SPEED UP YOUR DISCHARGE

THANKS, DOC.

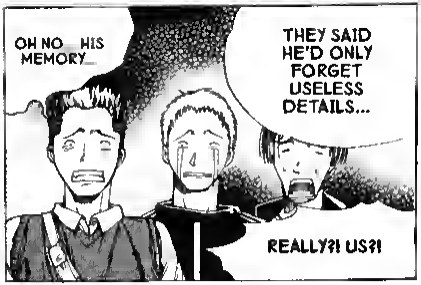
IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS THAT HE'S BEEN AWAKE, HAS ANYONE VISITED?
HIS FATHER, ONCE.
ONLY ONCE?

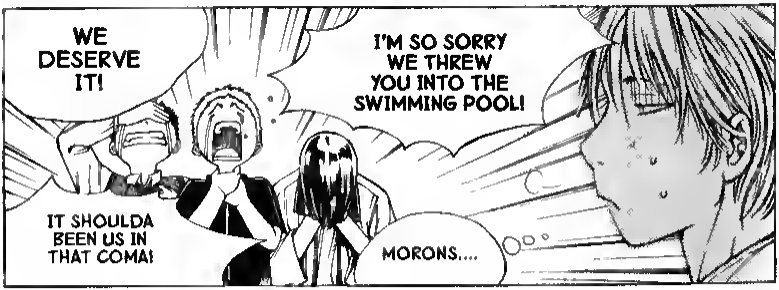
OH... SOME PARENTS...
THEY WEREN'T AROUND THE PAST TWO YEARS.
HE SEEMS LIKE A GOOD KID.
HE'S WELL-MANNERED AND VERY POLITE.
I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM.
I KNEW THE SITUATION WOULDN'T SUDDENLY CHANGE...

BUT IT'S DIFFERENT NOW.
I WIRED YOUR ALLOWANCE
IF I WORK AT IT, MAYBE...
...IT'LL GET BETTER...
ONE DAY...
HEY!!! MOON-BIN!!!

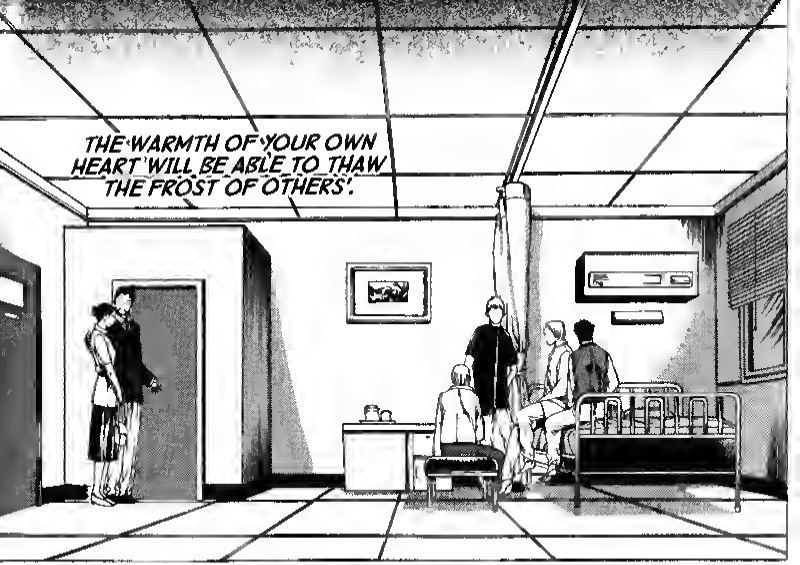

RISE AND SHINE, MR. LAZY BONES!
WAKE UP, SLEEPING BEAUTY!
BACK TO REALITY!

WHO ARE YOU?


OH NO... HIS MEMORY...
THEY SAID HE'D ONLY FORGET USELESS DETAILS...
REALLY?! US?!


WE DESERVE IT!
I'M SO SORRY WE THREW YOU INTO THE SWIMMING POOL!
IT SHOULDA BEEN US IN THAT COMA!
MORONS....

YOU EMPTY-HANDED IDIOTS! I DIDN'T EXPECT FLOWERS.
...BUT IS IT TOO MUCH TO HOPE FOR A LITTLE BOOZE?!
IT MUST BE YOU!
HO
CHE'S AS SELFISH!
YOU STILL KNOW HOW TO COMPLAIN!
MAN, WE GOT SO MUCH TO TELL YOU!
LIKE, ABOUT COLLEGE!
CAN YOU BELIEVE BUM-SHUK GOT IN?!
JAE-HYUN-- YOU ASS!
YEAH...
IT WAS ALL CHEATING!
ONE DAY...


THE WARMTH OF YOUR OWN HEART WILL BE ABLE TO THAW THE FROST OF OTHERS'.

IT'S TIME TO PROVE THAT.

Threads of Time™

拾神語

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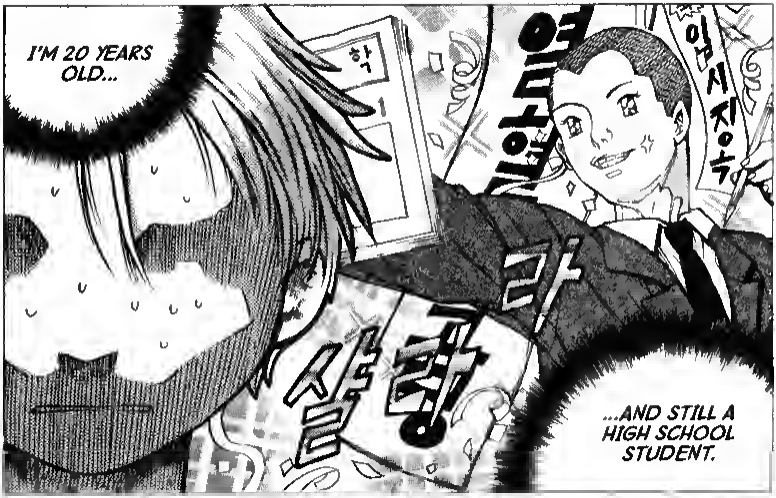
http://www.manga-sketchbook.org/

Chapter 46
A New Life

HELLO, SON.
CIGARETTES
YOU'RE A STUDENT-- TOO YOUNG!
CIGARETTES PLEASE.
I'LL REPORT YOU TO YOUR SCHOOL!
HERE, I'LL SHOW YOU...
YOUNG PUNKS THINK YOU CAN PASS AS ADULTS?!
PUT YOUR WALLET AWAY!
YOU CAN'T BRIBE ME!

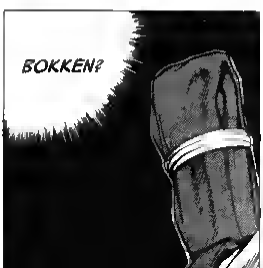
LOOK AT MY AGE.
부들부들
OKAY
HE'S LAUGHING AT ME!
파들
LITTLE OLD, EH?
THANKS.
YOU REPEATED HOW MANY GRADES?
THANKS.
MAYBE YOU JUST LIKE SCHOOL TOO MUCH.
I'M DYING HERE!

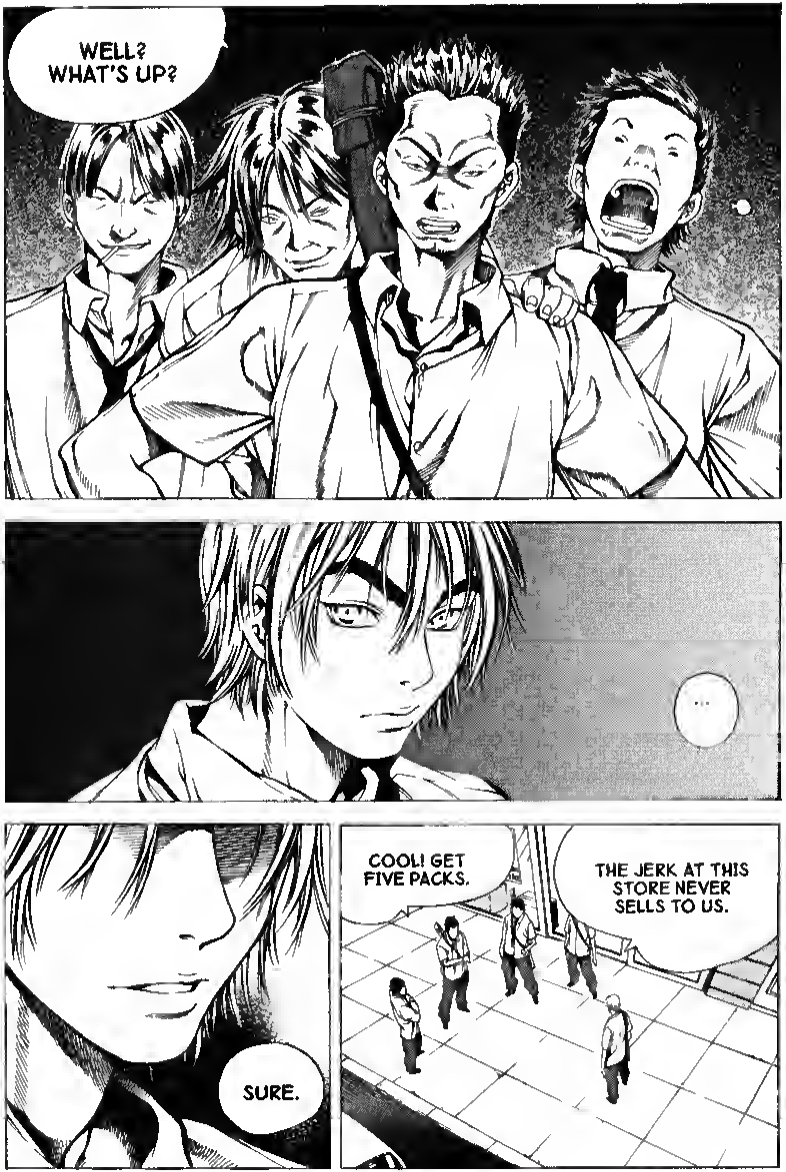

I'M 20 YEARS OLD...
...AND STILL A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT.

HEY! STOP!

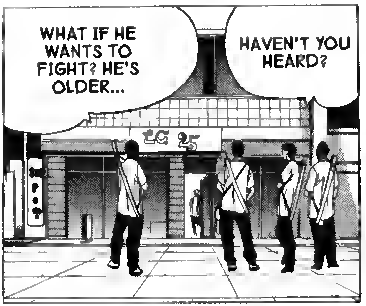
YOU A 20-YEAR OLD RETURNING STUDENT?

IS THAT TRUE?
'CAUSE WE NEED CIGARETTES.

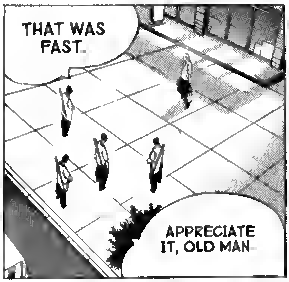

BOKKEN?


WELL? WHAT'S UP?
...
SURE.
COOL! GET FIVE PACKS.
THE JERK AT THIS STORE NEVER SELLS TO US.

WELL? GET GOING
휙!
HOW 'BOUT SOME CASH?
RIGHT, RIGHT. MONEY.
HERE YA GO.
500
IS THAT TOO MUCH?
HEE HEE!
NO... WHATEVER...


WHAT IF HE WANTS TO FIGHT? HE'S OLDER...
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD?

HE WAS SICK FOR TWO YEARS.
HE'S IN NO SHAPE TO FIGHT.
WE CAN TAKE HIM


THAT WAS FAST.
APPRECIATE IT, OLD MAN

WE'LL CALL YOU AGAIN.

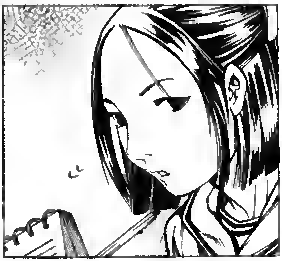
MAKE SURE TO BE AVAILABLE.

500
THIS IS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT.

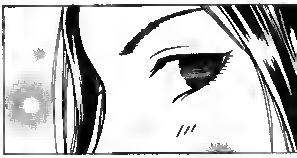
REALLY...
...DIFFI-
CULT.
WHAT TIME IS
IT NOW, HUH?
RAISE YOUR
HANDS UP
HIGH!!
YOUR MINDS
ARE ROTTEN!
SIT UP
STRAIGHT!
YOU PUNK!
OUCH!
OW!

PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR NUMBER AND YOUR CLASSROOM NUMBER

FIRST YEAR, CLASS FOUR, NUMBER 32.
DAMN!

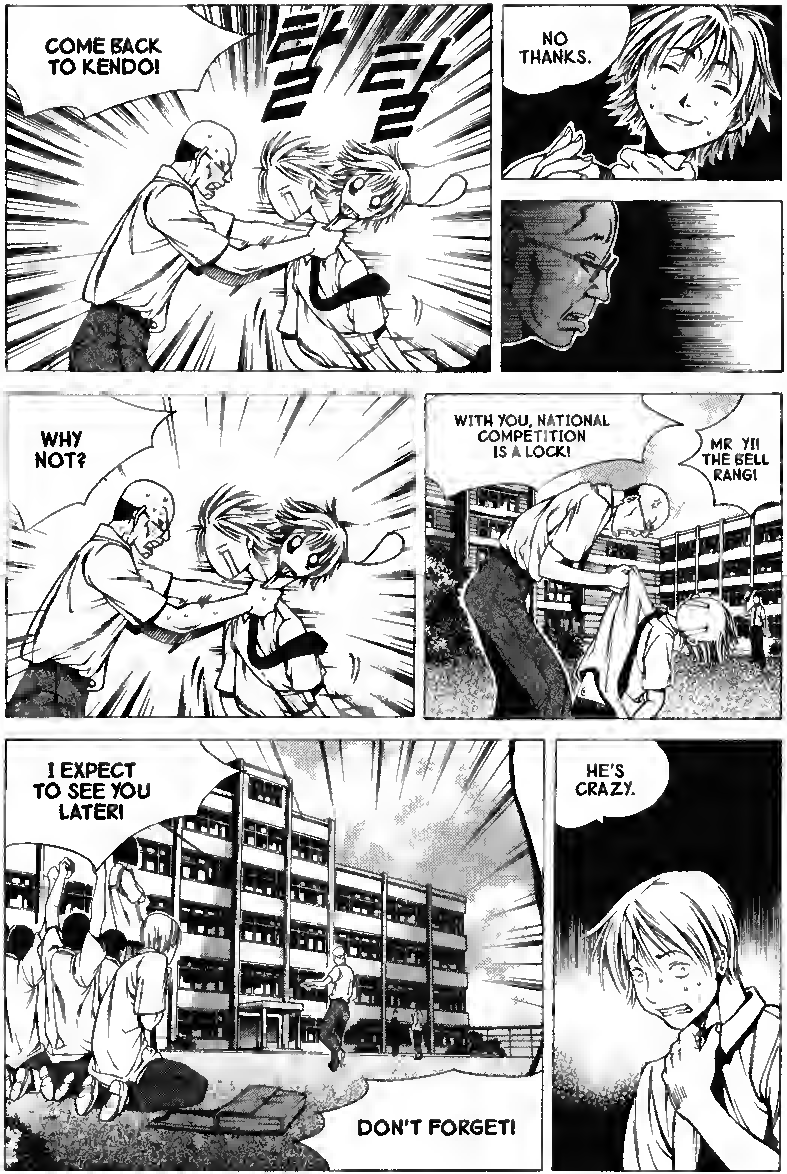


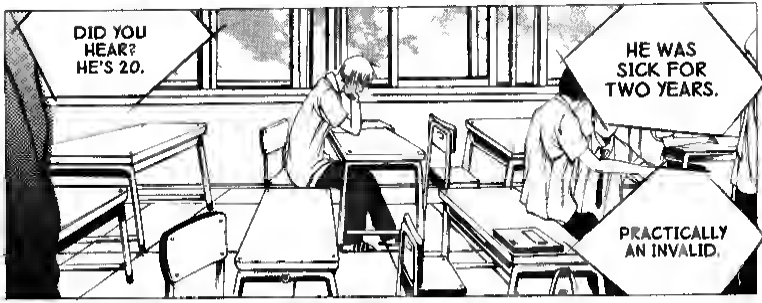
My arms are hurting



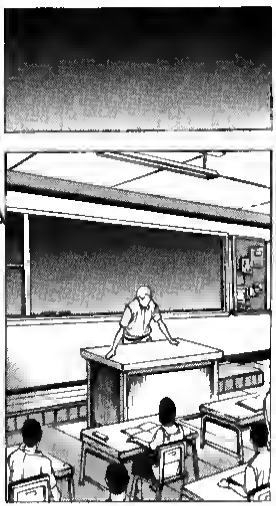
RAISE YOUR HANDS, PUNK!
빡
깜짝

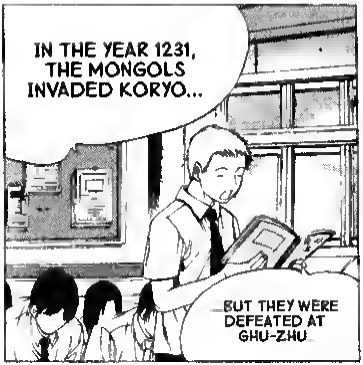
WHA?
OW!
MOON-BIN?
SIR?
MOON-BIN! HOW?
COACH.
ARE YOU THE RETURNING STUDENT? YOU WERE IN A COMA!
WELL, I... WOKE UP.

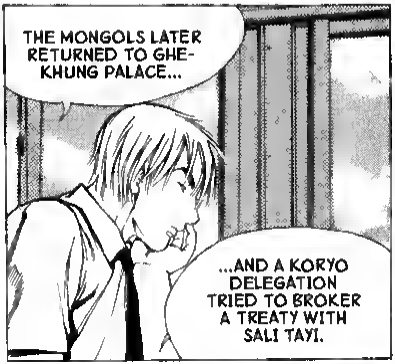

COME BACK TO KENDO!
NO THANKS.
WHY NOT?
WITH YOU, NATIONAL COMPETITION IS A LOCK!
MR YI! THE BELL RANG!
I EXPECT TO SEE YOU LATER!
DON'T FORGET!
HE'S CRAZY.


DID YOU HEAR? HE'S 20.
HE WAS SICK FOR TWO YEARS.
PRACTICALLY AN INVALID.

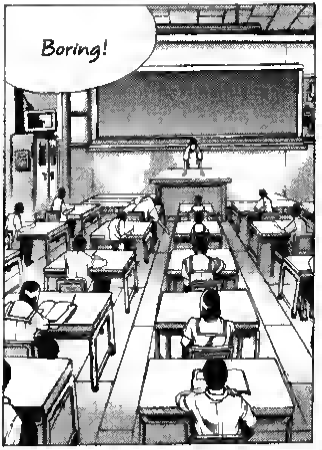
MAYBE HE HAD SUPER-MONO.
OR WORSE...
JERKS.

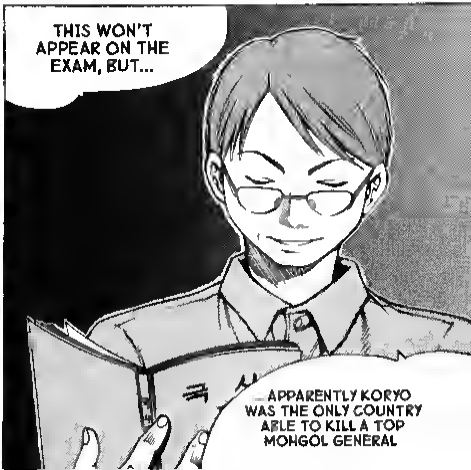


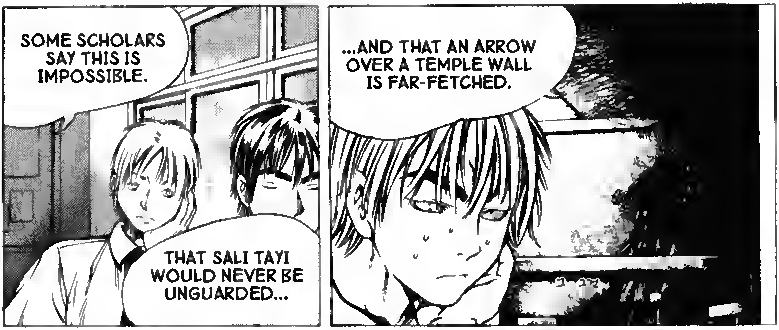

IN THE YEAR 1231, THE MONGOLS INVADED KORYO...
BUT THEY WERE DEFEATED AT GHU-ZHU


THE MONGOLS LATER RETURNED TO GHE-KHUNG PALACE...
...AND A KORYO DELEGATION TRIED TO BROKER A TREATY WITH SALI TAYI.

SALI TAYI HAD LEFT ONLY 72 SOLDIERS AT THE PALACE, AND HAD STATIONED HIMSELF AT CHUH-IH CASTLE, BUT HE
WAS KILLED BY THE WARRIOR MONK KIM YOON HU

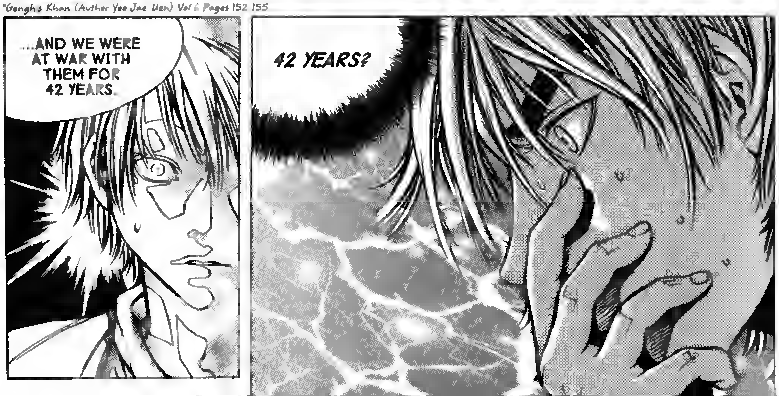

Boring!


THIS WON'T APPEAR ON THE EXAM, BUT...
APPARENTLY KORYO WAS THE ONLY COUNTRY ABLE TO KILL A TOP MONGOL GENERAL


SOME SCHOLARS SAY THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE.
THAT SALI TAYI WOULD NEVER BE UNGUARDED...
...AND THAT AN ARROW OVER A TEMPLE WALL IS FAR-FETCHED.

*IT'S SAID THAT SALI TAYI WAS LESS PRONE TO BLOODSHED THAN OTHER MONGOL GENERALS...
...SUCH AS DAHNG-CUE, WHO LED THE THIRD INVASION WITH 100,000 SOLDIERS.
ANYWAY, THE MONGOLS INVADED SIX TIMES...

*Genghis Khan (Author Yee Jae Uan) Vol 6 Pages 152 155



THAT WAR WENT ON FOR 42 YEARS?
AND THE LEADER OF THE GUERILLA CAMPAIGN WAS--
TEACHER! THE BELL RANG!
BUT THIS IS THE BEST PART...
RECESS!
OKAY, CLASS.

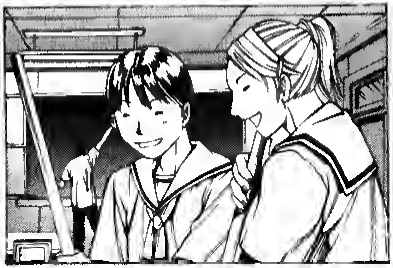
I'M EXHAUSTED.

THE WEIGHT OF THOSE LIVES IS BEARING DOWN ON ME.

I HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, I'LL BE COMFORTABLE HERE IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

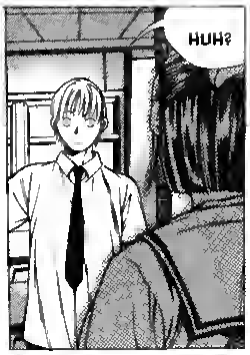
I'LL REMEMBER THE STRUGGLE THOSE PEOPLE WENT THROUGH.

...FOREVER...



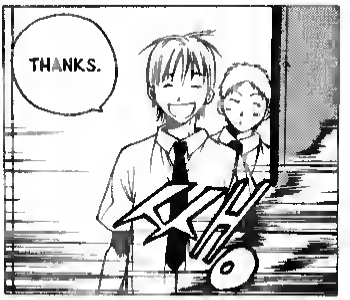
MOON-BIN!
VISITOR!

WHO?


HUH?

YOU...

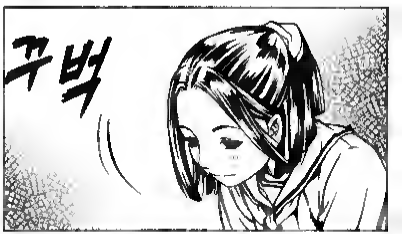
MR. YI REMINDS YOU TO GO TO KENDO AFTER SCHOOL
HE IS PERSISTENT.
AH... OKAY.


THANKS.
끼익

HEY!
Spaz!

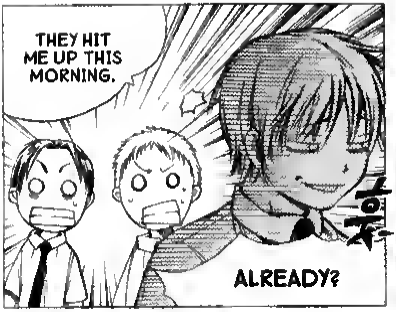
YES?

AH... IT'S... NEVER MIND.
Nothing to see here...
Move it, kid.

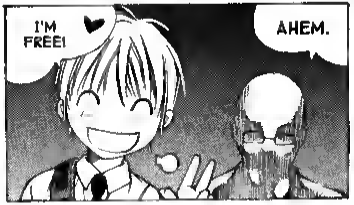

꾸벅

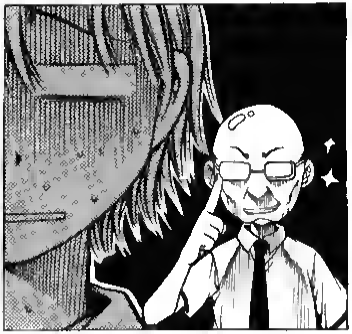
EASY COME, EASY GO.

DID SHE SAY SHE LIKES YOU?
HUH? NO... SHE CAME TO RUN AN ERRAND FOR A TEACHER.
WHOA!
HEY! WATCH IT, BUDDY!
AH... S-SORRY!
YOU GOT EYES! USE 'EM!
LET IT GO.
OKAY, GOT IT.
WHAT ASSHOLES!
WHO'RE THEY?
THEY'RE ALL ON THE KENDO TEAM.
AVOID THEM IF YOU CAN.
THEY'LL GIVE YOU GRIEF FOR SURE.
HA! DON'T WORRY.



*Sign: High School



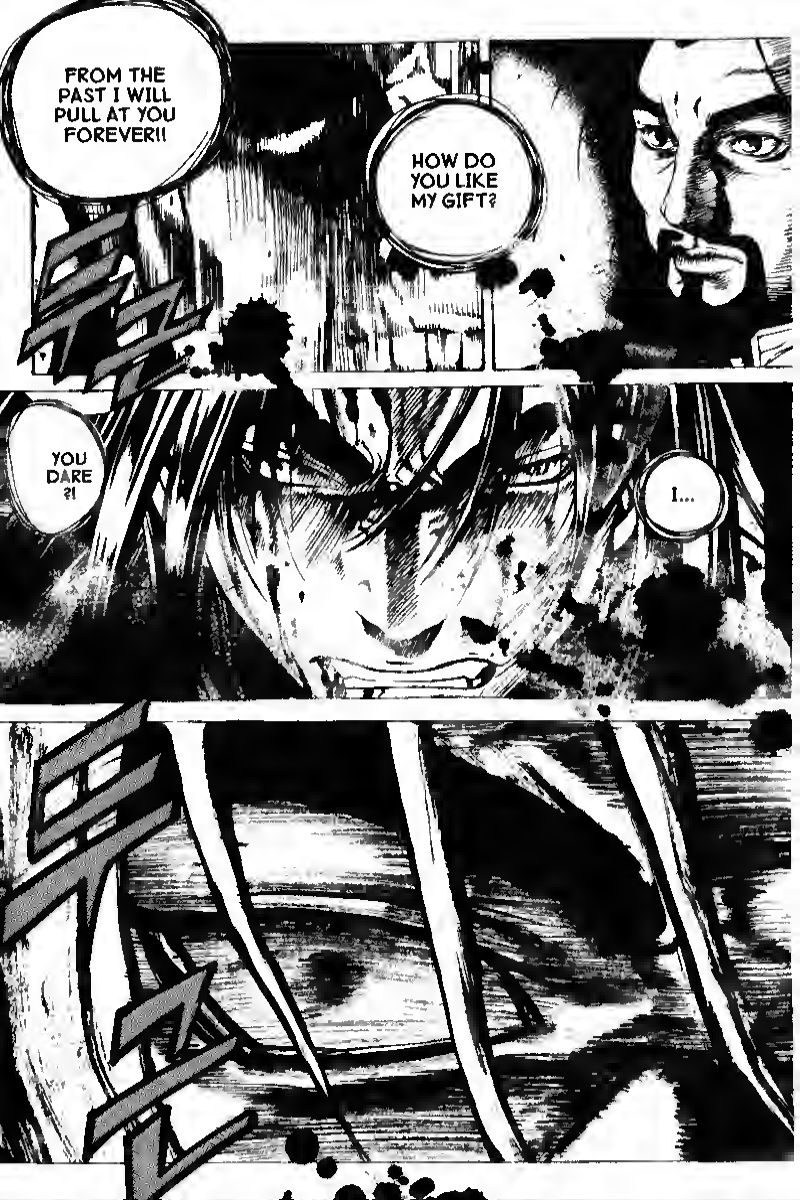


MR. YI! I WAS IN A COMA FOR TWO YEARS!
STOP YOUR NONSENSE!
I FORGOT ALL ABOUT KENDO!
IT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU JUST FORGET!
I CAN'T COMPETE WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN ACTIVE WHEN I WAS IN A COMA FOR TWO YEARS!
What a relief
RIGHT?
I UNDERSTAND YOUR POINT.
*Sign. Kendo
YEAH?
PROVE JUST ONCE THAT YOU CAN'T.
THEN I WILL LET YOU GO AFTER A GOOD BEATING!
GET READY FOR PRACTICE SPARRING!

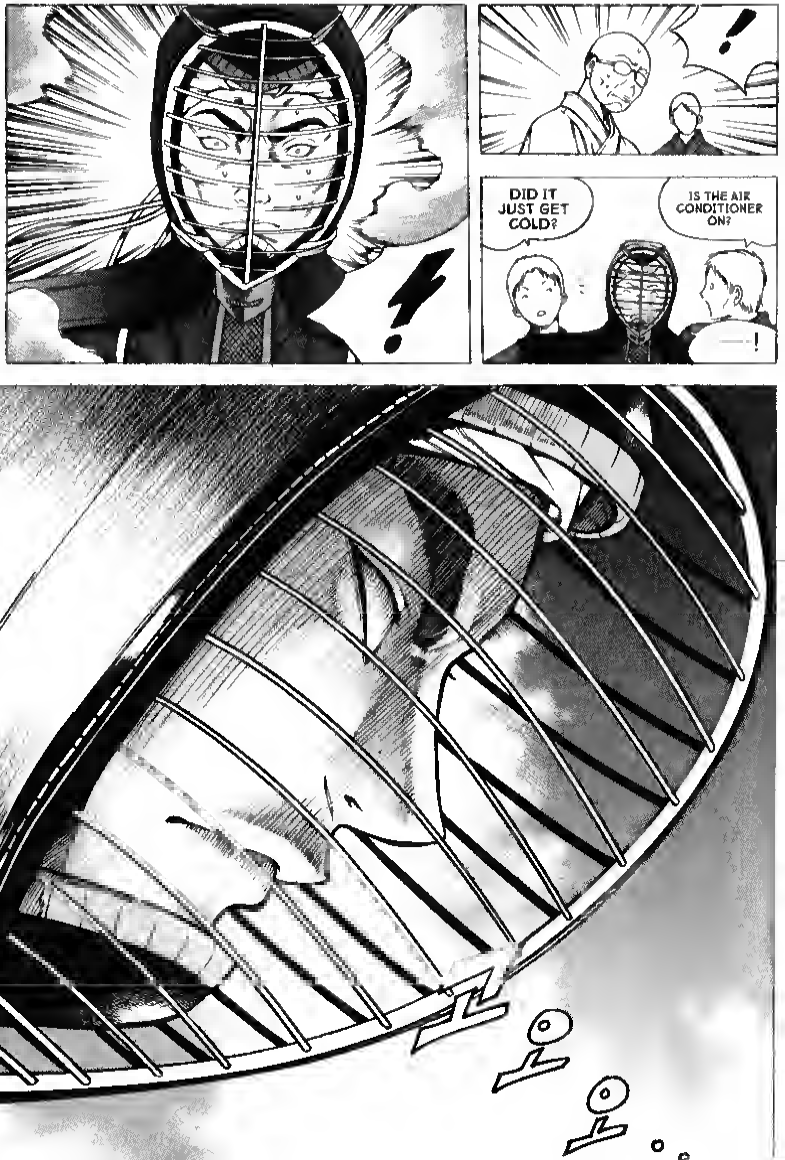
HOO BOY...
HEAD-GEAR!
WELL, WE MEET AGAIN.
THE RETURNING STUDENT!
YOU WANNA COMPETE WITH ME?
I'LL GO EASY ON YOU.
OH, HE LOVES GOING HARD ON THE BEGINNERS.
PROTECT YO' NECK!
SWING
HE'S GOING TO ENJOY THIS.

HEH.
LIKE RIDING A BIKE...
USE MY STICK.
OKAY...
STOP DILLY-DALLYING! LET'S GO!
WAITING IS BORING.

PLEASE... SPARE ME!
I HAVE BECOME AN ANIMAL.


FROM THE PAST I WILL PULL AT YOU FOREVER!!
HOW DO YOU LIKE MY GIFT?
YOU DARE ?!
I...

YOU CAN NO LONGER BE CALLED A HUMAN.
STAY ALIVE AND RETURN TO KORYO.
YOU ARE AN ANIMAL.
SIR, PLEASE SPARE US!
SLICE
SLICE
SLICE


!
!
DID IT JUST GET COLD?
IS THE AIR CONDITIONER ON?
!

IT FEELS LIKE I'M COMING APART!
AM I THE ONLY ONE?
HE'S WAY ABOVE ME!
I'M SCARED! I WANNA GO HOME!

KIAI
KIAI
WHAT NOW?
AH!
THIS WON'T WORK.

I NO LONGER BELIEVE IN THE WAY OF THE SWORD.
I'M GONNA LOOK FOR... OTHER OPTIONS.
IT IS...
...
...UNFORTUNATE...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? GIVING UP?
LOSER!

I'M HOME!

ANYONE HERE?
RAMEN AGAIN?
AH! HOT!

AH...
I...
I WILL AVENGE YOU.
I'LL FULFILL MY OBLIGATIONS
YOU CAN RELY ON ME
AH...
JUST PROMISE...
DON'T FORGET ME.

AH.
AH.
ALL YOU'VE CAUSED!
NO ESCAPE!

WARMTH.

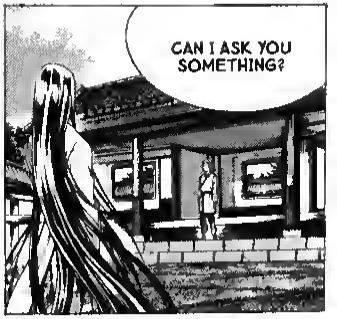
WHO?

하..
A DREAM?
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN ..
...SINCE I'VE SLEPT RESTFULLY THROUGH THE NIGHT?

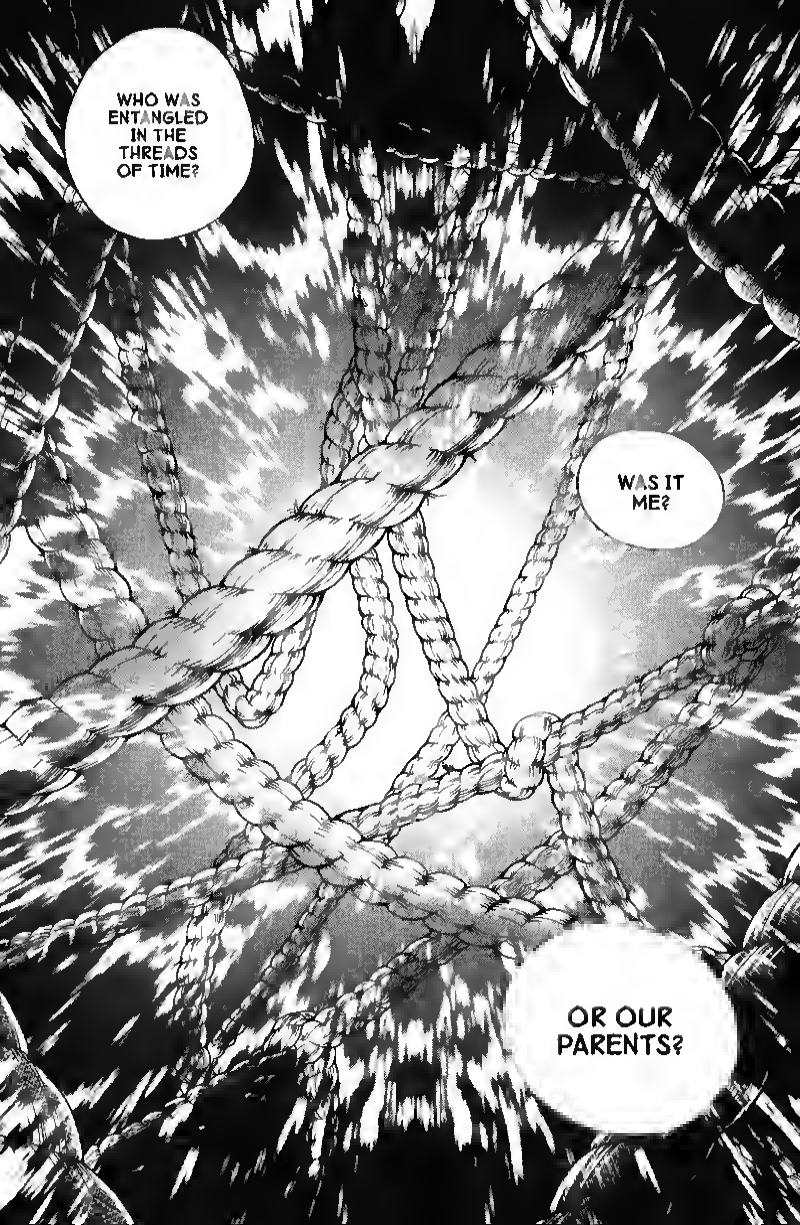
SINCE FOREVER.
아아
아아
아아
아아
아아
아아

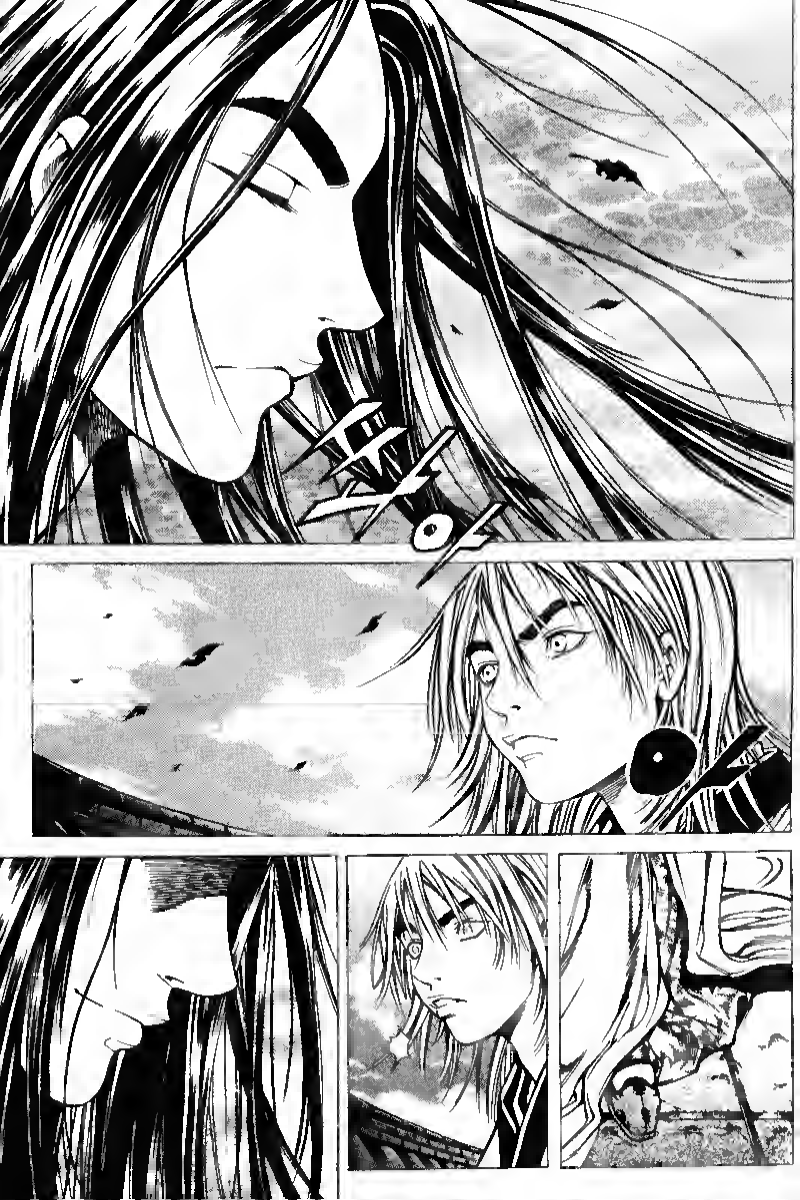
흠칫
파

SA-LUM, I THINK WE DID IT.
WE BROKE THE CHAIN OF KARMA.


CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

WHO?


WHO WAS ENTANGLED IN THE THREADS OF TIME?
WAS IT ME?
OR OUR PARENTS?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HEY!
WAIT A MINUTE!

SHE'S GONE?!

I GET THE FEELING...
...THAT I'LL NEVER SEE THAT WOMAN AGAIN AS LONG AS I LIVE.
AT LEAST, NOT IN THIS LIFETIME.

SLEEPY
HEY!
!
OOPS!
HEY, CIGARETTE BOY! C'MERE!
NEVER MIND!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
?
OW! LET GO OF ME.

RING RING
LET'S HANG OUT!
MAKE SURE YOU WEAR YOUR UNIFORM!
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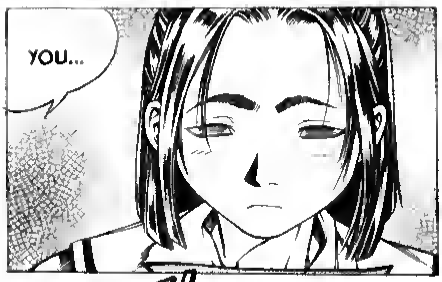
YOU...

HUH?
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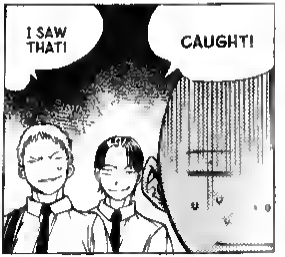
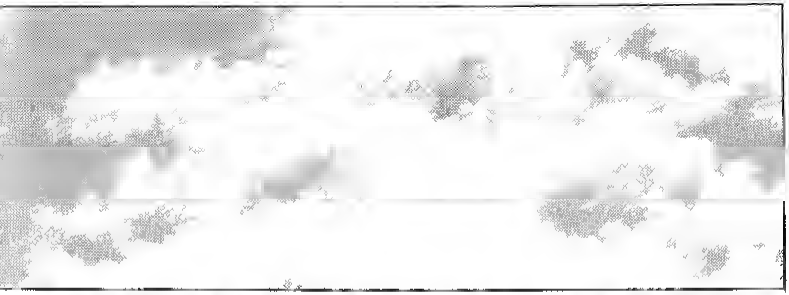
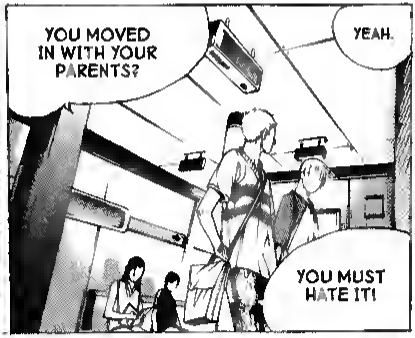
다 다 다
WAIT!

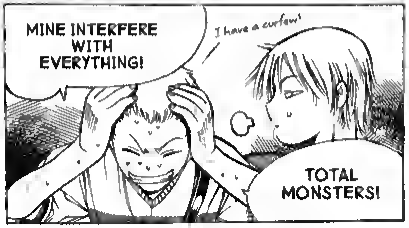

I SAW THAT!
CAUGHT!

AWE-SOME!
YOU SHOULD DATE HER!
WOW! A LETTER FROM OUR SCHOOL'S TOP BEAUTY!
YOU'RE SAYING SHE'S PRETTY?
YEAH! SHE'S SOMETHING!
HM...
SHE'S THE BEST!
I CAN'T REMEMBER HER FACE.
I remember the general outline
No way!
YOU'RE LYING!!
BUT SHE'S SO PRETTY!
DO YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND, MOON-BIN?

YEAH.
I'M SO ENVIOUS!
HOW OLD'S SHE?
PRETTY?
THIS GUY CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER THE PRETTIEST FACE IN THE SCHOOL!
C'MON, DISH THE DIRT!




YOU MOVED IN WITH YOUR PARENTS?
YEAH.
YOU MUST HATE IT!


MINE INTERFERE WITH EVERYTHING!
I have a curfew!
TOTAL MONSTERS!

BUT AT LEAST I'M IN COLLEGE...
RIGHT?
MR 20-YEAR OLD HIGH SCHOOL--
ASS!
GOS!
YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY YOUNG SWEETNESS!
AND THEY LIKE OLDER MEN!
SHUT UP! I'M SO STRESSED.
TEST PREP STUFF IS NO JOKE.
HEY, KENDO IS THE FAST TRACK TO COLLEGE.
I DON'T KNOW...
MID-LIFE CRISIS?
GET A GRIP.

WOMEN LOVE A GUY WITH A BIG SWORD IN HIS HANDS!
MOON-BIN?

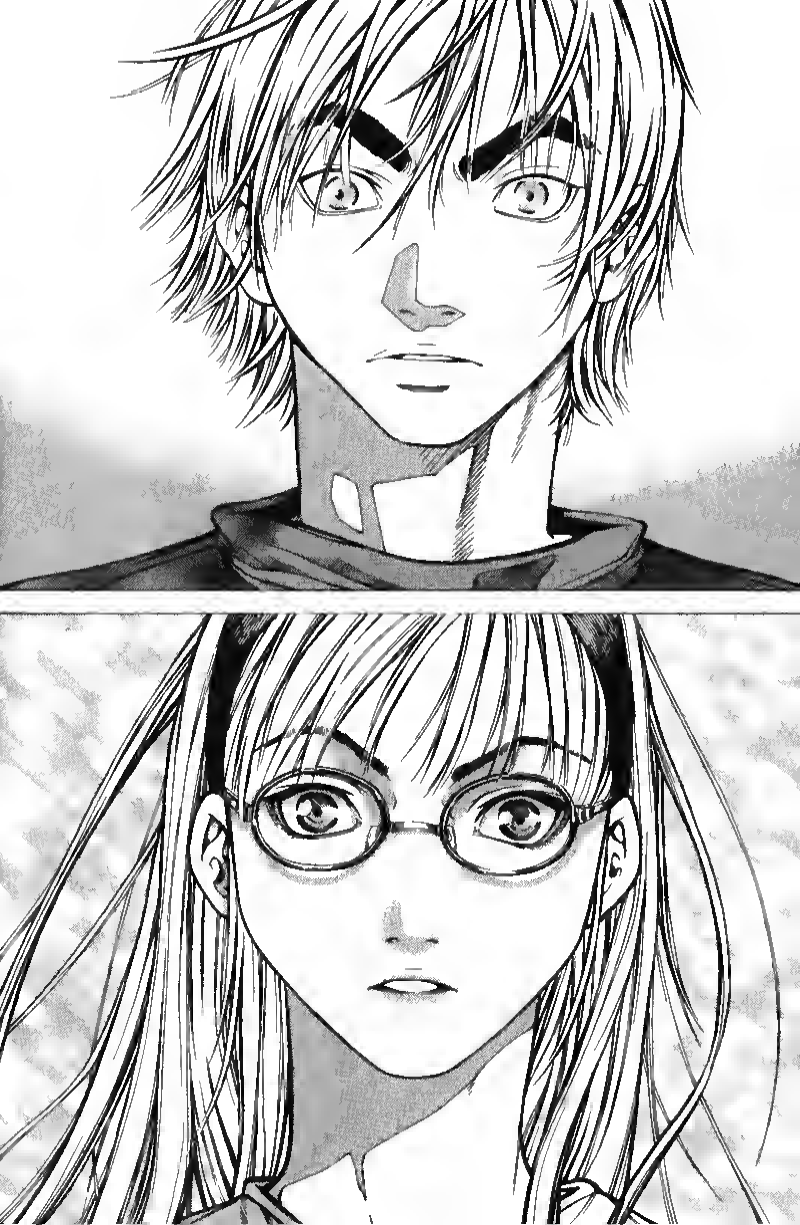
OLISH

ATAN
...
...HADAS
...?

YES?
?
SORRY. THOUGHT YOU WERE SOMEONE ELSE.
OH... OKAY.
I CAN BE WHO-EVER...
YOU WANT ME TO BE

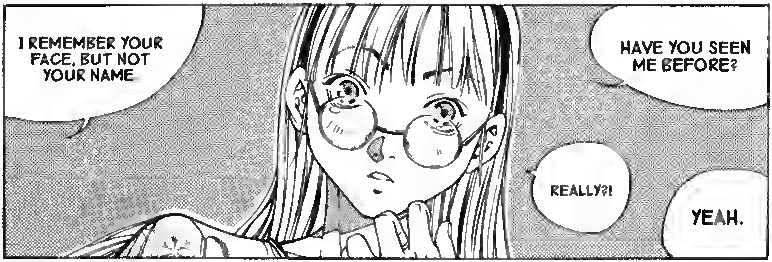
ATAN-HADA'S...
NEXT STOP: SHIN-CHON.
EXIT TO THE RIGHT.
IF IT'S NOT IN MY DREAMS...
...I GUESS I WON'T BE SEEING YOU AGAIN.

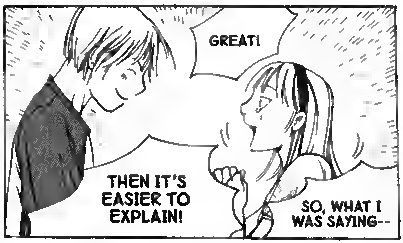
EXIT
싱이이

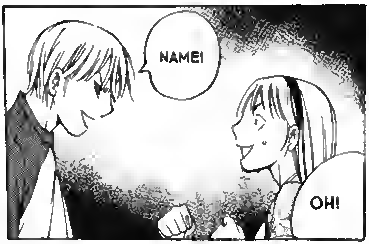


YOU!
YOU WOKE UP?!
MOON-BIN!

THAT'S SO CRAZY! I WAS JUST GOING OVER TO YOUR HOSPITAL.
I'M SO SHOCKED I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
!
EXIT
AH...
YOU... DON'T KNOW ME.
EXIT
OH! EXPLANATION! WHERE DO I BEGIN?!
UH, SAME SCHOOL, SAME POOL!
NO! SAME CLASS THAT DAY YOU FELL IN THE SWIMMING POOL!
I PULLED YOU OUT! AND THEN--
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
HUH?


I REMEMBER YOUR FACE, BUT NOT YOUR NAME.
HAVE YOU SEEN ME BEFORE?
REALLY?!
YEAH.


GREAT!
THEN IT'S EASIER TO EXPLAIN!
SO, WHAT I WAS SAYING--


NAME!
OH!

MY NAME! EUN-KYO! EUEN EUN-KYO!
ATAN HADAS...

FOR YOU ALONE I WAIT...
NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES...

EVEN FOR AN ETERNITY

THANK YOU FOR ENJOYING
THREADS OF TIME.
THE END

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IN DECEMBER, 1999, *THREADS OF TIME* FIRST APPEARED IN THE MONTHLY *JUNIOR CHAMP* MAGAZINE. *JUNIOR CHAMP* TOOK A BREAK AFTER THE FINAL BOUND VOLUME OF NOVEMBER/DECEMBER AND AFTER WORKING ON A SEPARATE PROJECT FOR THE NEXT NINE MONTHS, I SENT IN THE LAST *THREADS OF TIME* ON SEPTEMBER 4, 2003. WHETHER YOU CALL THAT TIME SHORT OR LONG, THAT'S HOW I LIVED MY LIFE WHILE DRAWING THIS PROJECT. IN SOME WAYS, THIS PROJECT TOOK OVER MORE THAN HALF OF MY TWENTIES.

THERE WERE MANY THINGS THAT I WISH I HAD DONE BETTER DURING THE TIME THIS WAS IN SERIALIZATION, AND ONE OF THOSE THINGS IS THE PART OF GENERAL KIM KYUNG-SOHN'S SIEGE ON GHU-ZHU CASTLE.

ONE MONGOL GENERAL WHO WAS RETREATING FROM THE BATTLE OVER THE GHU-ZHU CASTLE MARVELED, "I'VE PARTICIPATED IN SO MANY BATTLES, BUT I'VE NEVER FACED SUCH PERSISTENT RESISTANCE IN THE FACE OF FIERCE ATTACK." I REALLY WANTED TO CONVEY THIS KIND OF FEELING EXPRESSED BY THIS MONGOL GENERAL, BUT WHEN I STARTED SKETCHING THE GHU-ZHU CASTLE BATTLE SCENE, THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE WORK ON *THREADS OF TIME*, AND FOR ME, WHO HADN'T EVEN DRAWN A SINGLE HORSE, THAT WAS JUST TOO TALL OF AN ORDER.

IN THE TRUE HISTORY, KIM KYUNG SOHN DOES NOT DIE BY SALI TAYI'S HANDS. HE LIVED UNTIL 1251 AND FOUGHT FOR HIS COUNTRY UNTIL THE END AND WAS A GREAT AND MUCH ADMIRED GENERAL.

I THOUGHT ABOUT ESTABLISHING ANOTHER CHARACTER AND SETTING HIM UP AS THE FATHER, BUT THE THOUGHT OF HAVING HIM COME BACK AS THE LONE SURVIVOR AFTER BATTLING SALI TAYI AND HIS 100 MEN WITH HIS MERE 12 MEN MADE ME CHANGE MY MIND.

I REALLY WANTED TO DRAW A PICTURE OF A GENERAL WHO WOULD CONFRONT SALI TAYI WITH JUST 12 MEN. I REALLY HAD THE DESIRE TO DO SO, BUT MY SKILL AND EXPERIENCE WAS NOT UP TO THE CHALLENGE. I FEEL BAD ABOUT THAT.

A FRIEND OF MINE ONCE TOLD ME THAT IF I HAVE A GREAT AFFECTION FOR A STORY, IT IS BETTER TO DRAW SOMETHING DIFFERENT AND BUILD UP THE SKILLS NEEDED TO DRAW THE STORY THAT YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT. MEANING, IF THE DESIRE IS THERE, THE SKILLS WILL FOLLOW. RIGHT NOW, I AM COMPLETELY BLOWN AWAY BY THAT COMMENT.

HOWEVER, I HAVE NO REGRETS.

THAT IS BECAUSE FOR A YOUNG START-UP, THIS TIME WAS A VALUABLE LEARNING EXPERIENCE.

I FACED OBSTACLES HUNDREDS OF TIMES AND FELT MY OWN LIMITATIONS TWICE MORE THAN THAT. BUT THERE WERE TIMES THAT I FACED AN OBSTACLE AND FELT THAT IT WAS BEYOND ME, YET I FINISHED, SO I AM THANKFUL.

THESE DAYS, I AM BIT UNSURE OF WHAT TO DO.

I AM REALLY THE PERFECT SLACKER.

WHEN I HAVE CALMED DOWN A LOT, HAVE GROWN MORE AS A PERSON, AND UNDERSTAND MORE AND LEARN MORE, I WILL FIND YOU WITH BETTER WORK.

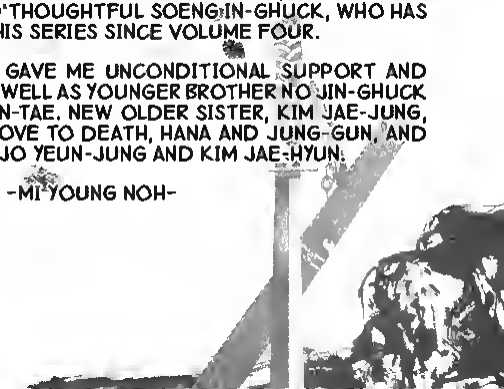
THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN A GREAT HELP WHILE I WAS MAKING *THREADS OF TIME*:

BAEK HEE-SUN, WHO HAS BEEN HERE THE LONGEST; THE COY NO JAE-DUCK; JOE HAERAN, WHO HAS BEEN WITH US TOO SHORT OF A TIME; LEE JUNG-EUN, WHO CAN GO TO CLUBS WITH CONFIDENCE NOW; ZANG ME-JUNG, WITH AN EASY-GOING PERSONALITY WHO PUT EVERYONE AT EASE; CHE HEUNG-SUN, WHO REALLY LOVED THE PUPPY; AND LEE EUN-SUCK, WHO CAME IN WHEN WE WERE BUSY AND WAS A GREAT HELP.

DAE WON C. (COMPANY), PUBLISHING COMPANY'S HWANG MIN-HO, BAEK JONG-GHU, WHO HAS BEEN HELPFUL FROM THE SELECTION PROCESS 'TIL NOW; HAN SUN-YEONG, WHO HAS BEEN WITH US SINCE VOLUME THREE; AND JUNIOR CHAMP'S TEAM LEADER, GHUN YEONG-MIN. AND SENSITIVE AND THOUGHTFUL SOENG-IN-GHUCK, WHO HAS BEEN WITH THIS SERIES SINCE VOLUME FOUR.

AND MY PARENTS, WHO GAVE ME UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT AND FOOD AND CLOTHES, AS WELL AS YOUNGER BROTHER NO JIN-GHUCK AND OLDER BROTHER JIN-TAE. NEW OLDER SISTER, KIM JAE-JUNG, AND MY NIECES THAT I LOVE TO DEATH, HANA AND JUNG-GUN, AND FUNNY FRIENDS JO YEUN-JUNG AND KIM JAE-HYUN.

-MI-YOUNG NOH-



MISS K. MEJUNG, WHO WORKED SO HARD FOR OVER A YEAR. I WILL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL!

MISS L EUN-SUK, WHO FOR FIVE MONTHS WAS BETTER THAN I EXPECTED I THANK YOU!